

ACCEPTED
FOR EXAMINATI-

EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS.

Hertford (M.B.)	Sawbridgeworth (U.D.)
Hoddesdon (U.D.)	Ware (R.D.)
Bishop's Stortford (U.D.)	(Braughing R.D.)
Ware (U.D.)	Hertford (R.D.)

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER (Alan D. Whislaw, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.)

1945.

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Sanitary Inspectors:

JOHN BARNISH*	(The Castle) Hertford (M.B.)
WM. NOEL DAVID*	(Council Offices) Hoddesdon (U.D.)
NORMAN F. CRIPPS*	(The Council House)	Bishop's Stortford (U.D.)		
CHAS. J. LUCAS*	...	...	...	(The Priory) Ware (U.D.)
KENNETH STEEN†	...	(Council Offices)	Sawbridgeworth (U.D.)	
LAURENCE J. DALE*†	...	...	...	(97, New Road) Ware (R.D.)
E. E. WATERIDGE†	...	...	} (Bridgefoot House, Buntingford)	
B. C. RICHARDS*‡ (from 1/10/1945)				Braughing (R.D.)
W. D. WAINES*†	...	...	(20, Castle Street)	Hertford (R.D.)

†Additional Sanitary Inspector.

*Certified Meat Inspector (Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Board).

†Also District Council Surveyor.

Preface.

The following Report on the Health of the Combined Districts has been drawn up on the lines indicated in the Circular issued by the Minister of health.

These rates have been circulated on the Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population in 1945.

I am indebted to the respective Sanitary Inspectors for the information on Sanitary matters generally, Housing and Food Inspection.

ALAN D. WHITELAW,

THE CASTLE,
HERTFORD.

Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	Resident Population	* Birth Rate.	* Death Rate.	** Infantile Mortality.
MUNICIPAL BOROUGH.				
Hertford	13,300	14.7	10.0	36
URBAN DISTRICTS.				
Hoddesdon	12,470	16.6	11.0	34
Bishop's Stortford	11,680	13.9	11.4	37
Ware	7,936	12.3	11.5	61
Sawbridgeworth	3,173	16.4	12.9	19
RURAL DISTRICTS.				
Ware	9,711	16.3	11.9	44
Braughing	9,037	16.7	11.9	26
Hertford	7,398	16.5	9.6	24
England and Wales ...		16.1	11.4	46

* Per 1,000 population.

** Per 1,000 births.

	BIRTHS			DEATHS	
	Legitimate	Illegitimate			
		Number	Per centage		
Hertford (M.B.) ...	183	13	7.1	109 87 134	
Hoddesdon ...	193	14	7.3	103 104 137	
Bishop's Stortford	145	17	11.7	89 73 133	
Ware (U.D.) ...	89	9	10.1	49 49 91	
Sawbridgeworth ...	51	1	1.9	33 19 41	
Ware (R.D.) ...	139	19	13.6	67 91 116	
Braughing ...	138	13	9.4	78 73 108	
Hertford (R.D.) ...	109	13	11.9	63 59 71	

Tuberculosis.

(New cases during 1945).

	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		TOTAL
	M	F	M	F	
Hertford (M.B.) ...	3	2	1	2	8
Hoddesdon ...	0	5	0	2	7
Bishop's Stortford ...	3	7	0	1	11
Ware (U.D.) ...	3	6	1	2	12
Sawbridgeworth ...	0	2	0	0	2
Ware (R.D.) ...	3	2	1	0	6
Braughing ...	2	3	1	2	8
Hertford (R.D.) ...	1	0	2	0	3

Number of cases remaining on the Register at the end of the year.

	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total
Hertford (M.B.) ...	34	9	22	8	73
Hoddesdon ...	39	13	23	7	82
Bishop's Stortford ...	24	5	21	16	66
Ware (U.D.) ...	18	7	20	11	56
Sawbridgeworth ...	4	3	8	2	17
Ware (R.D.) ...	13	17	6	18	54
Braughing ...	16	12	6	13	47
Hertford (R.D.) ...	14	4	13	5	36

Laboratory Facilities.

Bacteriological Examinations are carried out at the Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Hertford County Hospital.

East Herts Isolation Hospital.

Medical Superintendent :

R. H. MORTIS, M.R.C.S. (ENG.), L.R.C.P. (LOND.).

The Isolation Hospital at Gallows Hill, Hertford, has accommodation for 76 patients with 5 wards and a Cubical block, consisting of 10 cubicles.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Hertford M.B.		Hoddesdon		Bishop's Stortford		Ware U.D.		Ware R.D.		Seworth		Ware R.D.		Braughton		Hertford R.D.			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
ALL CAUSES	62	72	65	72	56	77	44	47	14	27	54	62	58	50	37	34
Zymotic diseases	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Influenza	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
Tuberculosis (all forms)	4	1	3	2	3	2	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	
Syphilitic diseases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Cancer	6	15	12	10	11	15	3	11	2	6	10	10	12	13	
Diabetes	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	4	10	4	10	5	7	3	4	3	3	6	8	4	3	
Heart disease	22	31	17	24	13	24	20	14	3	9	20	21	19	11	
Other circulatory diseases	3	1	1	7	4	8	2	1	0	4	1	3	1	2	
Bronchitis	2	3	7	3	2	1	1	2	3	4	2	3	2	3	
Pneumonia	2	1	1	3	6	3	2	3	0	1	1	1	1	0	
Other respiratory diseases	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	0	1	2	1	2	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Appendicitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Other digestive diseases	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	2	0	
Nephritis	3	0	—	1	2	1	—	2	1	0	—	0	1	3	
Pregnancy and childbirth	4	1	6	0	2	3	0	1	0	1	3	0	1	3	
Birth injuries : infant diseases ; premature births	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	
Suicide	1	0	1	0	1	0	3	4	3	2	1	2	1	6	
Road Traffic Accidents	4	6	2	1	3	2	3	0	1	0	2	2	1	2	
Other violent causes	4	6	5	2	4	6	3	2	1	2	5	2	1	3	
All other causes	0	3	4	
Still Births	2	2	4	1	2	1	2	3	5	1	2	1	2	1	
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age	6	1	7	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	

PROPAGANDA.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The National Campaign was supported by all the Districts as follows :—

Press Advertising.

Three advertisements, stating the facilities available, e.g., dates and times of Clinics were inserted in separate issues of :—

The Hertfordshire Mercury, by Hertford Borough, Ware Urban District, Braughing, Hertford and Ware Rural Districts.

The Herts and Essex Observer, by Bishop's Stortford and Sawbridgeworth Urban Districts, and

The Hoddesdon Journal, by Hoddesdon Urban District Council.

Publicity Material.

Posters issued by the Ministry of Information for the Ministry of Health and the Central Council for Health Education, were displayed in the Council Offices, Welfare Centres and Offices of the Ministry of Food as well as on Public Notice Boards.

Cinema Slides giving information of the times when Immunisation was carried out at the County Council Welfare Centres, were shown at the Hertford, Bishop's Stortford and Ware Cinemas.

Leaflets.

The Minister of Health's letter to Parents was distributed by the Health Visitors and School Nurses.

The Contamination of Food.

A Circular Letter drawing attention to the Necessity for a High Standard of Personal Cleanliness on the Part of all Food Handlers was sent out to all Premises where Food intended for Human Consumption was Manufactured and Retailed.

A copy of the Lavatory Display card "*Now wash your hands please,*" issued by the Central Council for Health Education, was also included.

Borough of Hertford.

Water Supply.

The water supply over the whole area of the Borough has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity.

All the water is chlorinated before going into supply. It is bacteriologically examined once each month, the results have been consistently good.

With the exception of 26 houses (of which 23 are in the village of Hertingfordbury), there is a piped supply throughout the Borough.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The method of disposal of the sewerage of the town is by the presedimented activated sludge process, and the resulting effluent is ultimately discharged into the River Lee.

Refuse Disposal.

There is a weekly collection, in covered freighters, of refuse which is disposed of by controlled tipping on Hartham.

Particulars of Sanitary Inspector's work during the year 1945.

Inspection of District.

<i>Total number of Visits</i>	-	-	-	-	-	1256
Dwelling houses inspected (Public Health & Housing Acts)	-	-	-	-	-	125
Re-inspections and Visits	-	-	-	-	-	324
General Inspections	-	-	-	-	-	93
Interviews at Properties	-	-	-	-	-	70
Visits re cases of Infectious Disease	-	-	-	-	-	12
Disinfections	-	-	-	-	-	24
Complaints investigated	-	-	-	-	-	42
Food Inspections	-	-	-	-	-	183
Food Inspections, Control Visits	-	-	-	-	-	158
Milk Samples	-	-	-	-	-	17
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-	14

Registered and Licensed Premises Inspected.

Factories	-	-	-	-	-	6
Bakehouses	-	-	-	-	-	19
Cowsheds	-	-	-	-	-	37
Dairies	-	-	-	-	-	42
Common Lodging Houses	-	-	-	-	-	24
Shops, Meat Stores	-	-	-	-	-	66
<i>Total Number of Visits</i>	-	-	-	-	-	<u>1256</u>

Notices Served.

Informal Notices	-	-	-	-	16
Statutory Notices	-	-	-	-	—
Improvements carried out	-	-	-	-	43

*Housing and Public Health Acts.**Overcrowding.*

During the year, alleged cases of overcrowding have been investigated at 5 dwelling-houses. The following is a summary of the circumstances :—

Houses Statutorily overcrowded	-	-	-	-	1
Houses not overcrowded	-	-	-	-	4

The extent of the overcrowded house was mitigated by the removal of two small children (twins).

Common Lodging House, Railway Street—The White House.

This is the only registered Common Lodging House within the Borough. The house provides nightly accommodation for 32 men; the number of men accommodated during the year was 6,362, a nightly average of 17 men. The house is generally well conducted.

House, 257, Hertingfordbury.

The drainage to this house has been connected to the Corporation sewer.

Hertingfordbury—Sanitary Circumstances.

Houses and Buildings subject to procedure under Section 47 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

"Replacement of earth closets, etc., by waterclosets at joint expense of Owner and Local Authority."

The outbreak of war in 1939 prevented the continuance of procedure to secure the provision of water supply, drainage, and water-closets, to the houses within the area covered by sewer facilities. Arising from a complaint, a re-survey was carried out, and in October a detailed report was submitted to the Corporation, the report embodied particulars as follows :—

The number of houses affected is	-	-	-	-	34
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Water Supply.

Houses dependent on well supplies	-	-	-	-	13
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Sanitary Accommodation—Pail Closets.

Houses with separate sanitary accommodation, the structures being adaptable for water-closets	-	-	-	-	30
Houses with structures not adaptable	-	-	-	-	4

Drainage.

The drainage provisions to the houses are generally inadequate, the number of houses not provided with proper and sufficient drainage and connection to the public sewer is 32.

The Council considered the report and resolved, that in view of the shortage of labour and materials at the present time, it was not possible to embark on any general scheme of conversion of pail closets to water closets for the time being.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.*Milk Supply.*

Number of Registered Producers - - - - -	3
,, ,, ,, Producer/Retailers of Milk - - - - -	8
,, ,, ,, Retail Purveyors of Milk - - - - -	1
,, ,, ,, Retail Purveyor of Milk (premises outside the Borough - - - - -	6
Number of inspections of Cowsheds - - - - -	37
,, ,, ,, Dairies - - - - -	42

During the year 2 applications for registration as producers of milk were approved, viz.;—

Mr. T. H. Wynter, "Windyridge," Bramfield.
(*New Registration*).

Mr. J. W. Huson, "Jenningsbury," London Road.
(*Change of occupation*).

Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936—1938.

Producers of "Tuberculin Tested" Milk - - - - -	3
Producer/Retailers of "Tuberculin Tested" Milk - - - - -	1
,, ,, ,, " Accredited" Milk - - - - -	1
Dealers licence to sell "Tuberculin Tested" Milk - - - - -	1
Supplementary Dealers licence to sell "Tuberculin Tested" Milk - - - - -	2
Supplementary Dealers licence to sell "Pasteurised" Milk - - - - -	2

During the year one producer's licence for "Tuberculin Tested" Milk lapsed, due to change of occupation.

Milk Samples.

During the year fifteen samples of "Designated" Milk, viz., eleven "Tuberculin Tested," and four "Accredited" were submitted for bacteriological examination.

The Pathologist reported the samples to be satisfactory.

Inspections of Meat and Other Foods.

During the year a considerable amount of time has been taken up with food inspections. The duties have necessitated 183 visits for examination purposes and the issue of 158 Certificates of Condemnation of foodstuffs.

The foodstuffs dealt with are set out as follows:—

Canned Foodstuffs.

	<i>Containers</i>	<i>Weight, lbs.</i>
Meat and meat products	391	1,056 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pork and Ham	66	346 $\frac{1}{4}$
Mutton	39	224
Fish	256	296 $\frac{3}{4}$
Vegetables	214	180
Scotch Oats	24	37
Cereals	10	24 $\frac{1}{2}$
Milk	115	106 $\frac{1}{2}$
Preserves	7	9
Jam	3	15 $\frac{1}{2}$
Sugar	215	218
Biscuits	7	105
Fruit	28	1,527
Soup	3	2
Cod Liver Oil	1	7
Cocoa	3	$\frac{3}{4}$
Oxo	45 cubes	$\frac{3}{4}$
Soup	36 cubes	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Salad Dressings	8 bottles	4
Pickles	6 bottles	6
Total weight	... 1 ton 17 cwts. 27 lbs.	

Fish.

Herrings	1,470 lbs.	Fish Cakes	55 lbs.
Mackerel	504 ,,	Plaice and Soles	51 lbs.
Halibut	231 ,,	Smoked Fish Fillets	42 lbs.
Kippers	174 ,,	Codfish	14½ lbs.
Total weight	...	1 ton	2 cwts

Miscellaneous Foodstuffs.

Butter	20 lbs.	Brawn	5½ lbs.
Margarine	28 lbs.	Sugar	98 lbs.
Lard	3½ lbs.	Flour	192 lbs.
Cheese	103½ lbs.	Oats	114 lbs.
Bacon	43¾ lbs.	Macaroni	10 lbs.
Pork	78 lbs.	Cereals	161 lbs.
Beef	29¾ lbs.	Fruit	181 lbs.
Sausages	77 lbs.	Dried Milk	21 lbs.
Minced Meat	18 lbs.	Cake	73 lbs.
Total Weight	...	11 cwts.	25 lbs.

Total weights of foodsfuffs :—

Food in containers	-	-	1 ton	17 cwts.	27 lbs.
Fish	-	-	1 ton	2 cwts.	77½ ,,
Miscellaneous foodstuffs	-	-	11 cwts.	25 ,,,	
Total	...	3 tons	11 cwts.	17½ ,,,	

Factories Act, 1937.

Factories—Number of visits and inspections	-	-	-	-	6
Bakehouses— „ „ „ „	-	-	-	-	19

The factories (Mechanical) were visited in regard to references from H.M. Inspector of Factories. Four of the contraventions were remedied, the other matters are structural requirements and are under consideration.

Emergency Mortuary Service.

In September, 1939, an establishment was set up to deal with Civilian Deaths due to war operations. A partitioned brick building (garage premises) and adjoining brick structure situate in Brewhouse Lane were taken over and equipped for mortuary purposes.

On the 18th of May, 1945, the keys of the building and the equipment were surrendered to the Air Raid Precautions Officer of the Borough and the service closed down.

Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

Notifiable Diseases.

Diphtheria Prophylaxis.

Number of Children who had completed the full course
of Immunisation during the year.

AGE	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5—9	9—14	Total under 15
	2	116	12	4	3	19	23	179

Scabies Order, 1941.

The Gas Cleansing Station at the rear of the Infant Welfare Centre, Bull Plain, continued to be used as a Scabies Treatment Centre.

Women and children were treated by the District Nurses and men by an employee of the Corporation.

During the year 1945, the number of persons treated at the Centre was :—

Children under 14 years of age	56	}	Total 87
Adults (Men 4, Women 27)	31		

Hoddesdon Urban District.

Water.

Except for slightly less than 2% of the whole, the district has a constant supply from public mains, which in nearly all cases is laid on direct from each house (only a few houses relying on standpipes). There are approximately sixty houses in the district without main supply and these are principally in the remote and undeveloped parts of the district. In addition there are sixteen houses which derive their water from a private supply.

The Northern end of the district is served by the Metropolitan Water Board. The extension in the area of supply transferred to the Board has now taken place. The Council's own water undertaking covers the remainder of the district, all the water being chlorinated. The supply was satisfactory in quantity.

It was not found possible to sample the raw water for bacteriological examination, but one chemical and two bacteriological examinations were made of the treated water and were reported as being satisfactory.

It is now proposed to have bacteriological examination of the Council's supply made monthly.

Sixteen houses in Nursery Road derive their water supply from a deep bore hole in an adjoining nursery. Samples were taken from this and found to be unsatisfactory and the Owner was called upon to thoroughly cleanse the storage tank. After this had been done subsequent samples proved the supply to be fit for domestic purposes.

During the year four samples of water were taken from two factories with their own supply. Three of the samples were taken from the same factory, the first of which proved to be unsatisfactory. The following two samples passed the required tests.

Three other samples of water were taken from premises which derive their water supply from private wells, and all were reported as satisfactory.

Woollensbrook.

The Police requested an examination of the shallow well which serves three cottages at Woollensbrook. It appeared that this well had been deliberately polluted by some oily coloured substance. A sample of water was submitted to the Laboratory but it was not found

possible to identify the contaminant. The occupiers were warned not to use the water and further samples were taken. The water was found to be unsatisfactory and the Owners have been carting supplies of potable water.

The Owners and the Council have been negotiating with the Metropolitan Water Board for the extension of the main in this neighbourhood as in dry summer the supply is intermittent and as it is drawn from shallow wells which are liable to pollution. These negotiations have not been satisfactorily concluded, but the matter is still being pressed.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Most of the district (except for houses in undeveloped and low-lying parts of the area) is seweried. Sewage disposal works consisting of detritus, settling tanks, contact beds, and percolating filters serve the old urban area. Sewage from Broxbourne and Wormley is disposed of by broad irrigation at the Sewage Farm.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Household refuse is disposed of by means of controlled tipping in a disused Gravel Pit in Ogard Road. Early in the Summer it was found to be infested with crickets.

A liquid tip dressing had been used on the tip, but the manufacturers of this were informed that it did not appear to be as potent as was claimed. An Entymologist was sent and inspected the tip and he made certain recommendations. These and other measures were carried out and eventually the crickets were eliminated, but not before some inconvenience had been caused to the occupiers of neighbouring houses.

The Council rendered every assistance to these people by providing insecticide powder.

Herts County Council Act, 1935.

A disused ballast pit which is used for the disposal of builders' spoil and other refuse brought from outside the County, is regulated by the provisions of the above Act. It was necessary to call the attention of the Owners of the tip to the fact that these provisions were not being complied with as some market refuse was being dumped on the site. The Owners took immediate steps to prevent this cause for complaint.

Particulars of Sanitary Inspector's Work.

Dwelling-houses inspected under the Public Health and Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	296
Housing, re-inspection, works in progress and interviews with Owners and Builders	...	...	...	...	...	1000
Visits in connection with Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	12
Inspections—Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	46
Inspections—Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	57
Visits to Slaughterhouses in connection with meat inspection	...	...	...	...	...	7
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	53
Inspection of Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	9
Visits to other premises where food is prepared and/or exposed for sale	...	...	...	...	...	57
Market Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	39
Visits to School Premises	...	...	...	...	...	14
Refuse Tip Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	84
Investigation of Complaints other than Housing	...	...	...	...	...	19
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	51
Camping Grounds and Caravans	...	...	...	...	...	23
Miscellaneous Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	174
					TOTAL INSPECTIONS	<u>1941</u>
Complaints received	...	...	...	...	...	161
Number of Letters Sent	...	...	...	...	...	619
Number of Informal Notices Served	...	...	...	...	...	105
Number of Statutory Notices Served	...	...	...	...	...	25

Drainage and Sanitary Arrangements.

Drains tested	...	...	...	...	...	39
Drains provided, improved, re-laid or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	25
Drains cleared	...	...	...	...	...	27
Improvements to Soil Pipes, Vent Shafts, Inspection Chambers, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	22
Baths, Sinks and Basins provided	...	...	...	...	...	11
Waste Pipes, provided, improved and trapped	...	...	...	...	...	16
New W.C.'s provided	...	...	...	...	...	5
W.C.'s repaired	...	...	...	...	...	42
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	...	44
Yards paved or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	10
Roofs, gutters and rain water pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	71

Dangerous structures rebuilt	...	...	...	...	3
External walls repaired	...	...	...	...	13
Chimney stacks repaired	...	...	...	...	8
Firegrates provided, repaired	...	...	...	...	11
Damp-proof courses provided	...	...	...	...	4
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	20
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	8
Floors ventilated	...	...	...	...	4
Rooms, walls and ceilings repaired and re-decorated				...	89
Windows and doors, provided and repaired	...	...	...	...	38

No fresh connections of dwelling houses were made to the sewer during the year.

Improvements for the disposal of sewage were effected at two private dwelling houses during the year.

Disinfections.

Disinfections were carried out in consequence of infectious diseases (including Tuberculosis) in 23 dwelling-houses.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

During the year seven houses were treated for bug infestation. All the houses were privately owned. The same procedure was followed as in previous years.

Public Health Act, 1936.

Four Statutory Notices were served for the abatement of nuisances at the following addresses :—

- No. 42, Murchison Road, Hoddesdon,
- No. 7, Kenning Road, Hoddesdon,
- No. 9, Paul's Lane, Hoddesdon,
- No. 133, High Road, Wormley.

The nuisances were abated.

Twenty-one Statutory Notices were served under Section 75 of the above Act for the provision of dustbins at various addresses in the district. In all cases the new dustbins were either provided by the Owner or supplied by the Council and the cost recovered.

Housing.

Several large houses were de-requisitioned by the Military during the year and were being reconditioned and put into use. One was partially converted into flats.

One property—5c, Hertford Road, Hoddesdon, was requisitioned by the Council and used to house an inadequately housed family.

Six other properties had fairly extensive works of repair carried out and made fit for habitation. The flank walls of four different dwellings have been rebuilt.

Two new experimental houses were built in the district under the authority of the Government during the year and one bungalow, for use by the occupier of an Agricultural Holding, was also constructed.

Demolition Orders.

No Demolition or Closing Orders were served during the year.

Housing Act, 1936—Overcrowding.

Cases of overcrowding were brought to our notice, particularly during the latter part of the year, but no accurate information as to the extent of overcrowding is available at present.

Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919.

The County Council are the authority for enforcing the above, and during the year some 33 complaints were received and passed on to the County Pests Control Officer.

The Council's sewers were baited during the year by the County Council operators. The results did not reveal the presence of any rats in the sewerage system.

Inspection of Factories—Factory Act, 1937.

Fifty-one visits and inspections have been made.

As a result of notification by the Factory Inspector, Notices were served on two Factory Owners and the necessary improvements effected. Sanitary accommodation was provided at two factories during the year.

Schools.

Fourteen visits were made to Schools and it was necessary to call attention to some minor defects which were subsequently rectified.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply.

Number of registered producers	...	...	...	8
Number of retail purveyors of milk	...	...	...	11
Number of retail purveyors of milk by round from premises outside the district	...	...	...	3

The cowsheds and dairies have been frequently inspected, and a total of 103 visits has been made.

One cowkeeper discontinued his business during the year.

A proposal to improve an existing cowshed, formerly used for the production of milk not for public use, was considered impracticable owing to the age, construction and condition of the building. A plan for a new cowshed was approved. This was under construction and completed in 1946.

Informal Notices to carry out repairs and for cleansing dairies were served in four cases and the work was done. It was necessary to threaten proceedings in one case to enforce the provisions of the Milk & Dairies Orders, 1926, upon one cowkeeper.

Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 & 1938.

Retailers licences in respect of Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	5
Supplementary retailer's licences in respect of Accredited Milk	...	0
Supplementary retailer's licences in respect of Pasteurised Milk	...	1
Supplementary retailer's licences in respect of Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	1

Milk Samples.

Twenty-one samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year:—

1 Tuberculin Tested; 10 Accredited; 2 Pasteurised; and

8 Samples of School Milk; including 5 Accredited & 2 Pasteurised.

Seven of the samples failed to pass the required tests, three of which were samples of school milk. One was Accredited milk produced outside the district, and the information was passed to the local authority for the area where the milk was produced.

The rest of the unsatisfactory samples were Accredited milk taken from local producers. This was taken up with the producers concerned and subsequent samples submitted for bacteriological examination were reported to be satisfactory.

Meat and Other Foods—Inspections.

Slaughterhouses	4
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Seven visits were made to slaughterhouses during the year.

Visits paid to Food Premises amount to 119. Having regard to labour difficulties these premises are fairly well maintained, although it was necessary to give warnings in a few instances.

Unsound Food.

The following foods were found to be unfit for human consumption and were surrendered :—

60 lbs. Hindquarter English Beef

10 lbs. Imported Pork—Surface trimmings

3 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. Bacon

9 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. Bacon

10 st. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Cod

10 $\frac{1}{2}$ st. Whiting

Box of Hake—Reputed weight 5 st.

5 Boxes Skate—Reputed weight 20 st.

4 Boxes Roker Wings—Reputed weight 24 st.

1 Box Herrings—Reputed weight 7 st.

206 Tins of food (including beef, pork, and other meat, Pilchards, Salmon, Beans, Peas, Soup, Jam, Milk, etc., etc.), amounting to approximately 340 lbs.

Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

Notifiable Diseases.

	TOTAL	Under 1 year	1-5 years	5-14 years	14-21 years	21-65 years	over 65 years	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Small-pox	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Scarlet Fever	7	2	5	—	—	—	—	2	—
Erysipelas	5	—	—	—	1	—	3	1	—
Enteric Fever	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polio-myelitis	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Dysentery (Sonne)	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Acute primary Pneumonia	9	—	—	—	1	1	6	1	2
Measles	118	6	49	57	1	5	—	—	4
Whooping Cough	17	1	9	7	—	—	—	2	—
Jaundice (Hepatitis)	21	—	1	9	2	8	1	—	—

Incidence of Infectious Diseases during the different months, 1945.

	TOTAL	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Small Pox	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	7	—	1	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	1	1	—
Enteric Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Erysipelas	5	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	—	—	1
Dysentry	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	118	—	—	1	3	15	44	44	11	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	17	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	2	4	6	—
Infective Hepatitis	21	2	1	—	—	1	3	1	2	4	5	1	1
Pneumonia	9	1	3	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	1

Prevalence of Measles in the different Wards.

<i>No. of Cases.</i>	<i>Wards.</i>			
48	Rye Park
47	Hoddesdon
19	Broxbourne
4	Wormley

Scabies.

All cases were treated at the Gas Cleansing Section of the First Aid Post situate at the rear of the Council Offices, by former Civil Defence Workers.

A total of 114 cases was treated for Scabies during the year, together with 48 contacts.

<i>Adults</i>	<i>Children</i>
58 (plus 28 contacts).	56 (plus 20 contacts).

These numbers include 19 cases (17 adults and 2 children). Plus 2 contacts from other districts.

Diphtheria Prophylaxis.

Number of Children who had completed the full course of Immunisation during the year.

<i>AGE</i>	<i>Under 1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5—9</i>	<i>10—14</i>	<i>Total under 15</i>
	1	138	22	6	8	40	7	222

Insulin.

During 1945, five persons were supplied with Insulin free of charge. Two persons were supplied at half cost.

Bishop's Stortford.

Water.

The Supply from the Pumping Station augmented by that from the New Pumping Plant installed at the Council Depot the previous year was satisfactory in quantity and quality. All the water supply is treated by chlorination. Chemical and bacteriological tests are made each quarter, and the results indicate that the water is wholesome and entirely satisfactory.

The only part of the District without a pipe supply are 28 houses in the Thorley area. This extension will be proceeded with in the near future.

Five houses, Golf Links, supplied from private supply owned by Golf Club.

Four houses at extreme West of District supplied by water from mains of the Dunmow Rural Council.

Twenty houses on boundary of district supplied by private wells.

One house at the Railway Station. Water supplied from Railway Company.

There are no public standpipes, although there are several blocks of Cottages supplied by standpipes situated in private yards.

Drainage and Sewerage.

No alteration took place to the Public Sewerage System.

Public Cleansing.

Refuse is disposed of by Tipping, on land adjoining the Castle Ground.

Particulars of Sanitary Inspector's work during the year.

Inspection of the District.

Total number of visits -	-	-	-	-	-	2123
Dwelling houses inspected for Housing Defects	-	-	-	-	-	222
Re-visits to dwelling-houses including works in progress	-	-	-	-	-	381
Premises inspected on complaint for nuisances other than Housing Defects	-	-	-	-	-	47
Re-visits to premises where a nuisance was found to exist	-	-	-	-	-	79
Special and miscellaneous visits	-	-	-	-	-	280
Interviews with owners etc. at properties	-	-	-	-	-	90
Visits re Infectious Disease including Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	136
Visits re Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	2
Visits re Scabies, etc.	-	-	-	-	-	22
Visits to Slaughterhouse	-	-	-	-	-	79
Visits to Dairies, Cowsheds, etc.	-	-	-	-	-	136
Visits to Bakehouses	-	-	-	-	-	26
Visits to Butchers' Shops	-	-	-	-	-	42
Visits to Fish Shops	-	-	-	-	-	17
Visits to Cafes and Restaurants	-	-	-	-	-	51

Visits to Ice Cream Premises	-	-	-	-	11
Visits to other Food Shops, Stores, etc.	-	-	-	-	96
Visits to Markets	-	-	-	-	63
Visits to Factories	-	-	-	-	13
Visits to Workplaces, Offices and Shops	-	-	-	-	22
Visits re Petroleum Byelaws	-	-	-	-	14
Visits re Building Byelaws.	-	-	-	-	151
Visits to rat infested premises	-	-	-	-	15
Visits to Stables and Piggeries	-	-	-	-	5
Visits to Moveable Dwellings	-	-	-	-	1
Visits to Council Houses	-	-	-	-	21
Visits to property requisitioned for housing purposes	-	-	-	-	71
Visits re Emergency Housing Accommodation	-	-	-	-	6
Visits re Application for Housing Accommodation	-	-	-	-	21
Visits to obtain permitted numbers	-	-	-	-	3

Complaints and matters referred.

Complaints received	-	-	-	-	216
Complaints investigated	-	-	-	-	176
Complaints referred to other Departments & Authorities	-	-	-	-	*43
Other matters referred to other Departments & Authorities	-	-	-	-	45

*Including 33 complaints of infestation by either rats or mice.

Testing of Drains and Sanitary Fittings.

Drains tested with water	-	-	-	-	10
Drains tested by other means	-	-	-	-	5

Notices Served and the result of the service of such notices.

Preliminary Notices.	No. served.	No. complied with.
(a) Dwelling house for Housing Defects	201	127
(b) Premises for other than Housing Defects	21	13
(c) Special premises (shops, factories, etc.)	25	21

Statutory Notices.	No. served.	No. complied with.
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Housing Act.

Section, to render a house fit for human habitation	-	-	1	2
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Public Health Act, 1936.

Section 75, to provide a suitable covered dustbin	-	-	5	5
Section 24, of proposed work of maintenance to sewer	-	-	1	1
Section 45, to put defective closet into repair	-	-	1	1
Section 287, to enter premises	-	-	1	1

N.B.—The number of notices complied with may include notices outstanding from a previous year.

Summary of Sanitary Improvements Effected.

	At dwelling houses	At Special Premises	At various premises for other than Housing defects
Drainage systems repaired, unstopped, etc.	21	2	0
Water Closets repaired, screened, etc.	33	2	0
Water Closets reconstructed or new provided	0	1	0
Dampness remedied (roofs, gutters, etc., repaired)	- - - - - 54	1	0
Floors repaired	- - - - - 25	5	0
Sink and waste pipes renewed or repaired	- 8	1	0
Windows and doors repaired	- - - - - 23	0	0
Ranges, grate, etc., repaired or renewed	- 11	0	0
Premises cleansed	- - - - - 0	7	0
Rooms cleansed	- - - - - 39	0	0
Overcrowding abated	- - - - - 0	0	11
Accumulations removed	- - - - - 0	1	2
Dustbins provided	- - - - - 27	0	0
Miscellaneous	- - - - - 19	6	3

Disinfection and Disinfestation.

	Rooms disinfected with Formaldehyde Lamps.	Parcels of bedding passed through Steam Disinfector.	Houses disinfected with hydrogen cyanide.	Houses disinfected by other means.	4oz. tins of Izal issued.	1 pt. bottles of Zaldecide issued.
Following infectious Disease	20	2	....	....	11	....
Following other diseases	4	2	....	....	2	....
Following vermin infestation at						
(a) Council Houses	....	1	....	....	....	4
(b) Other Houses	....	4	5	....	....	12
TOTALS	24	4	5	5	13	16

*Inspection and Supervision of Food.**Milk Supplies.*

The Milk supply services of the town were kept under constant supervision throughout the year and 206 samples of milk were obtained and submitted for examination to the Emergency Public Health Laboratory for the area. The Pasteurised and Accredited supplies were entirely satisfactory but during the summer months five of the upgraded samples did not reach the Accredited standard and thirty two of the Tuberculin Tested samples were reported upon in an adverse manner. Investigations into these failures were carried out by the Department, the Ministry of Food and into the sources of supply by the officials of nearby District and County Councils and it was not found possible to secure improvement in either of the bulked Tuberculin Tested supplies affected until partial heat treatment had been applied in one instance and the time lag between production and distribution reduced in the other.

Nature of Registration.	No. Registered.	No. selling Accredited.	Designated Milk. T.T.	Designated Milk. Pasteurised.
Producer Retailers and/or Wholesalers - -	4	2	1	0
Retail Purveyors resident in the district - -	3	0	3	3
Retail Purveyors resident outside the district -	2	1	0	0
Designation (if any).	No. of Samples taken.	No. Satisfactory.	No. Unsatisfactory.	
Ungraded - - -	21	16	5	
Accredited - - -	10	10	0	
Pasteurised - - -	36	36	0	
Tuberculin Tested - - -	139	107	32	

(198 of these samples were obtained by the Department and the remaining 8 by officers of other authorities).

Meat and other Food Inspection.

Number of Bakehouses - - - - -	9
" " Butchers' Shops - - - - -	13
" " Fish Shops - - - - -	7
" " Other Food Shops - - - - -	50
" " Cafes and Canteen - - - - -	19
" " Licensed Premises - - - - -	41
" " Miscellaneous Food Premises - - - - -	13

The inspection of food premises covered by the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, was maintained throughout the year and although no improvements of a major character were carried out, and the gradual deterioration of equipment and premises continued, the standard of cleanliness remained at a satisfactory level.

Details of Foodstuffs found unfit for Human Consumption.

Corned Beef	-	112 x 12 oz. tins	Marmalade	-	1 x 2 lb. jars
Corned Beef	-	36 x 6 lb. "	Jam	-	59 x 1 lb. "
Corned Mutton	-	6 x 6 lb. "	Tongue	-	1 x 12 oz. tins
Sausage Meat	-	3 x 1½ lb. "	Meat & Veg.		
Chopped Ham	-	8 x 12 oz. "	Stew	2 x A1	"
" "	-	3 x 2½ lb. "	" "	43 x A1T	"
" "	-	9 x 6 lb. "	" "	10 x A2	"
Pork Luncheon Meat	-	15 x 12 oz. "	Stewed Steak	47 x A1T	"
" "	-	4 x 2½ lb. "	Soup	12 x A1	"
" "	-	2 x 6 lb. "		21 x A1T	"
Meat Roll	-	1 x 1 lb. "	Baked Beans	3 x 8 oz.	"
" "	-	4 x 3 lb. "	" "	4 x A1	"
Sliced Bacon	-	1 x 15 oz. "	" "	89 x A1T	"
Carrots	-	3 x A2½ tins	Peas	-	12 x A1T
Grade I			"	-	14 x A2
Salmon	5 x ¼ lb. "	Carrots	-	3 x A2	"
" "	6 x ½ lb. "	Jam	-	1 x 2 lb. jars	
" "	14 x 1 lb. "	Lemon Cheese	2 x 1 lb.	"	
Grade II			Herrings	2 x 5¾ oz.	"
Salmon	1 x ½ lb. "	Chocolate	-	59 x 2 oz. bl'ks	
Grade III			Wheat Flakes		
Salmon	5 x ½ lb. "	etc.		118 packets	
" "	1 x 1 lb. "	Rice pudding	-	2 x 2½ lb.	
Pilchards	-	1 x 5 oz. "	Kosher meat	10½ lbs.	
"	188 x 15 oz. "	Boneless Beef	31 lbs.		
Mackerel	-	130 x 15 oz. "	Beasts' Offal	74 lbs.	
Herrings	-	11 x 7 oz. "	Pigs' Lungs &		
Herrings	-	7 x 16 oz. "	heart	3 lbs.	
Sardines	-	11 x 3½ oz. "	Goats' Liver	1½ lbs.	
Sardines	-	12 x 4½ oz. "	Brawn	-	18 lbs.
Crayfish	-	2 x 8 oz. "	Bacon	-	26½ lbs.
Jam	-	3 x 1 lb. "	Sausage	-	347 lbs.
Treacle	-	1 x 2 lb. "	Fish	-	2269 lbs.
Marmalade	-	20 x 2 lb. "	Cheese	-	40 "
Evaporated Milk	149 x 14½ oz. "	Milk Powder	-	224 "	
Skimmed Milk		Biscuits	-	111 "	
Sweetened	9 x 1¾ pt. "	Rice	-	362 "	
Condensed milk		Meat Cubes	-	39 "	
Sweetened	13 x 1⅞ pt. "	Rolled Oats	-	16 "	
Household milk	3 x 4 pt. "	Coffee Ground	10 "		
Unlabelled foodstuffs	908	Coffee (Beans)	12 "		
Vegetable Salad	1 x A2	Mustard	-	24 "	
Coffee	4 x ½ lb. "	Salt	-	114 "	
Tomatoes	1 x A2 lb. "	Figs	-	30 "	
Meat & Fish Paste	138 large jars	Sultanas	-	72 "	
" "	11 small "	Prunes	-	72 "	
Marmalade	42 x 1 lb. "	Dates	-	104 "	
		Sugar	-	1½ "	
		Fish Cakes	-	646	
		Meat Pies	-	64	
		Oranges	-	946	

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

		Cattle excluding cows.	Calves	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.	Goats.
<i>Number Inspected</i>	... ...	1	2	1	94	115
<i>All Diseases Except Tuberculosis.</i>						
Whole Carcasses condemned	...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	...	—	—	—	1	1
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	...				1.06	0.87
<i>Tuberculosis Only.</i>						
Whole Carcasses condemned	...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	...	1	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuber- culosis	... ... ... ...	100.0	—	—	—	—

General.

The control of building work by licence and the consequent concentration of the industry on the construction of new houses combined with the shortage of labour and materials resulted in the still further deterioration of the structural condition of rented house property. It was only with great difficulty and after long delays that the necessary works to secure the remedying of the more serious housing defects and complaints were carried out.

The extent of the housing shortage and the appalling conditions under which families were being forced to live were revealed when the Sanitary Inspector took over and completely re-organised in July, the system for the investigation of housing applications and the allocation of accommodation controlled by the Council. A points scheme which takes into account overcrowding, diseased conditions, number of children, war service and local residence was brought into use and at the end of the year three hundred and nineteen applicants were on the list of persons urgently in need of accommodation. His Department also administers the provisions relating to Emergency Housing Accommodation and it is disappointing to report that only one person offered suitable lodging accommodation. Eighteen properties were however requisitioned for use by persons inadequately housed and at the end of the year eleven remained in the possession of the Council providing accommodation for twenty- two families.

Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

Notifiable Diseases.

"Removed to Hospital" includes cases notified from Hospitals.

		January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Diphtheria	-	-		1									
Scarlet Fever	-	6	2	1	3	4	3		1		1		
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	2	2					2			2		
Pneumonia	-	-	1	2							1		1
Dysentery (Sonne)	-		1	2	2		39			9			
Measles	-	-	2	36	45	37	18	12	3				
Whooping Cough	-								1				

Diphtheria Prophylaxis.

Number of Children who had completed the full course
of Immunisation during the year.

AGE	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	Total under 15
	4	131	28	9	5	21	3	201

Scabies.

Details are shown below of the number of persons given benzyl benzoate treatment by the District Nurses and a former member of the Civil Defence organisation either at the cleansing station in the Council Depot or at the patients home, actual cases receiving two applications of benzyl benzoate and close contacts one.

Residents of Bishop's Stortford,				Residents of other districts.					
No. of Applications	Under 5 years.		Over 14 years.	Under 5 years.		Over 14 years.		Total Treated	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
1	0	0	5	1	1	4	0	0	14
2	6	10	6	9	4	36	0	0	72

Insulin.

During 1945 six persons were supplied with Insulin free of cost.

Ware Urban District.

Water Supply.

The quantity of water pumped was satisfactory. Work was commenced on replacing the existing electrically driven three-throws pumps at the Lower Water-works Pumping Station, Musley Lane, by vertical spindle borehole pumps.

Bacteriological Examination of the Water Supply was satisfactory. Sixteen samples were analysed from the Water Tower supply and from the Reservoir supply. Four chemical analyses were made and proved satisfactory.

No bacteriological examinations were made of the raw water. No treatment is undertaken other than chlorination.

It is estimated that only 0.6% of the properties in the district are not connected to the Town supply.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Practically the whole District is sewered.

The Sewage Disposal Farm is situated at Rye House, about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles S.S.E. of Ware, and practically adjoining the Hoddesdon Urban District Boundary, and is within the Ware Rural District.

Distribution of sewage is carried out by means of overground concrete troughs, from which the sewage flow can be discharged at various points as desired.

The drainage from the boundary ditches, passes under the River Stort and enters the River Lee.

Public Cleansing.

Refuse and salvage collections are made separately at fortnightly intervals and disposed of by controlled tipping at Amwell End.

Particulars of Sanitary Inspectors Work.

<i>Summary of Visits.</i>	<i>Number.</i>
Slaughterhouses - - - - -	352
Food premises - - - - -	53
Milk sampling - - - - -	64
Milk Sundry visits - - - - -	7
To Laboratory—Milk samples - - - - -	45
To Laboratory—Meat specimens - - - - -	7
Cowsheds and Dairies - - - - -	19
Bakehouses - - - - -	5
Sewers and Drains - - - - -	251
Sundry nuisances - - - - -	127
Salvage collection bins - - - - -	6
Smoke nuisances - - - - -	8
Offensive accumulations - - - - -	11
Keeping of animals - - - - -	20

Infectious Diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	45
Scabies	-	-	-	-	-	-	17
Lice	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Billets	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Verminous premises	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
Filthy premises	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Verminous articles	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
Rats and Mice	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Housing	-	-	-	-	-	-	153
Factories	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Shops Act	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Schools	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
							1,264

*Public Health Act, 1936.**Sewers and Drains.**Sewers (private).*

(1)	Examined and obstructions removed	-	-	10
(2)	Smoke tested	-	-	3
(3)	Levels taken	-	-	2
(4)	Part relaid	-	-	1
(5)	Tracing course	-	-	2

Drains.

(1)	Examined and obstructions removed	-	-	7
(2)	Drain relaid	-	-	1
(3)	Drain repaired	-	-	1
(4)	Acess chambers provided	-	-	3
(5)	Soil pipes renewed	-	-	2
(6)	Vent shafts renewed	-	-	1
(7)	Footpath rain water channel provided	-	-	1
(8)	Sink gully renewed	-	-	1
(9)	Rainwater gully renewed	-	-	1
(10)	Gully channels renewed	-	-	2
(11)	Soakaway for surface water provided	-	-	1

Closet Accommodation.

Additional W.C.'s provided	-	-	-	-	2
Additional lavatory basins provided	-	-	-	-	2
Windows provided	-	-	-	-	1
W.C. pans cleansed	-	-	-	-	2
W.C. pans renewed (3 wash-outs removed)	-	-	-	-	17
W.C. service pipes repaired	-	-	-	-	30
W.C. flushing cisterns adjusted	-	-	-	-	7
Flush pipe joint remade	-	-	-	-	5

Sanitary Fittings.

Sinks renewed (stone sinks removed)	-	-	-	-	3
Sink supports renewed	-	-	-	-	1
Sink waste pipes renewed	-	-	-	-	3
Sink waste pipes cleaned	-	-	-	-	1
Sink traps provided	-	-	-	-	2

Watercourses (Nuisances).

Watercourse cleaned	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pond, filled in	-	-	-	-	-	1

Nuisances and Sundry Repairs.

Roofs repaired	-	-	-	-	-	5
Roof gutters renewed	-	-	-	-	-	2
Roof gutters provided	-	-	-	-	-	1
Roof gutters cleaned	-	-	-	-	-	1
Down pipes renewed	-	-	-	-	-	1
Down pipes provided	-	-	-	-	-	1
Ceilings renewed (rooms)-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Ceilings repaired (rooms)-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Ceilings cleansed (rooms)-	-	-	-	-	-	16
Walls—Plaster boarded (room)	-	-	-	-	-	1
Walls—cleansed	-	-	-	-	-	16
Staircases cleansed	-	-	-	-	-	1
Walls—lined asbestos (damp room)-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Walls—pointed because damp	-	-	-	-	-	4
Floors renewed	-	-	-	-	-	4
Floors repaired	-	-	-	-	-	16
Floors ventilated	-	-	-	-	-	2
Staircase treads and risers repaired	-	-	-	-	-	1
Windows made to open	-	-	-	-	-	1
Window casements repaired	-	-	-	-	-	2
Window sash cords renewed	-	-	-	-	-	1
Window reveals repointed	-	-	-	-	-	2
Fire grates renewed	-	-	-	-	-	5
Fire grates repaired	-	-	-	-	-	3
Flue boarded up	-	-	-	-	-	1
Water Supply tank repaired	-	-	-	-	-	1
Yard paved	-	-	-	-	-	1
Dampcourse, vertical provided-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Dustbins provided	-	-	-	-	-	6
No nuisance found	-	-	-	-	-	8
Complaints received	-	-	-	-	-	254

Smoke Abatement.

Complaints were made about the emission of smoke from two factory chimneys. In one case burning waste products was a contributory cause of the nuisance; although this hoiler being of an unsatisfactory type, would be likely to cause a nuisance under most working conditions, unless smokeless fuel was being consumed. Complaint was also made about the chemical smell from the same factory. This smell is stated by the Company to be harmless and arises from the issue of a phenol formaldehyde vapour into the atmosphere, and could be prevented by the installation of an expensive alcohol recovery plant.

In the second instance, the trouble experienced was associated with a badly designed plant at a pea factory. The capacity for heat absorption in the blanchers was inadequate owing to the steam coil surfaces being insufficient, and consequently the boilers were forced to maintain the required temperature. This was rectified by increasing the steam coils, and also by providing a sparge pipe for free steam off an auxiliary boiler. The use of an open cast coal was also a contributory cause.

Number of cases	- - - - -	8
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Infectious and Notifiable Diseases, etc.

	No of visits.
Scarlet Fever	24
Small Pox Contacts	1
Diphtheria	1
Visits to Schools	7
Tuberculosis	5
Other Diseases	7

Head Lice.

Arising out of two cases reported to the District Nurse for treatment, inspection of the sleeping accommodation in huts on a new factory site were found to be unsatisfactory and alterations were effected.

Number of Visits	- - - - -	7
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Filthy and Verminous Premises or Articles.

Bugs—Houses Disinfested.

Fumigated with "Thermatox" fumigators.

Council Houses (also fleas)	- - - - -	1
Privately owned	- - - - -	1

Fumigated with "Thermatox" and sprayed with Zaldecide.

Privately owned	- - - - -	1
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Fumigated with S.O.2 and "Zaldecide."

Council houses-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
<i>Sprayed with "Zaldecide."</i>							
Council Houses	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Privately owned	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
No trace found	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Number of visits	-	-	-	-	-	-	30

Verminous Articles.

Bedding steamed (number of houses)	-	-	-	3
No trace found	"	"	-	1
Old furniture, bedsteads, etc., destroyed			(number of houses)	2
Number of visits	-	-	-	9

Filthy Premises.

Cleansing effected (number of houses)	-	-	-	2
No nuisances found (complaints made)	-	-	-	3
Number of visits	-	-	-	8

*Housing Act, 1936.**Overcrowding.*

Overcrowded houses	-	-	-	-	-	11
Slight overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-	1
No overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-	6
Overcrowding abated	-	-	-	-	-	1
Number of visits	-	-	-	-	-	26

The above cases came to my notice during the year. An examination of the application made for Council Houses would lead to further information on the subject.

Housing Survey.

Number of premises inspected (preliminary survey only)	82
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A preliminary survey has been made of the High Street island sites and the adjacent properties in East Street and West Street, comprising 68 premises, of which, 22 were found to have adequate yard space, 17 of these being used for human habitation. Of the 46 premises without adequate yard space, 30 are occupied for human habitation, and 16 for business purposes only. It is a very congested area and plans are in preparation so that the density can be calculated.

Number of visits to old condemned houses for further report as to condition, repair, etc.	-	45
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Circular 2156.

Licences authorising the temporary occupation of 3 houses was extended for a further period of 6 months.

Rats and Mice Destruction.

Complaints passed to the County Pests Officer for attention - - - - -	19
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Shops Act, 1934.

Sanitary accommodation was provided for one shop, and an exemption certificate granted for another.

Factories Act, 1937.

Visits to factories with mechanical power - - - - -	7
" " without mechanical power - - - - -	1

*Sanitary Conveniences—Defects found.**Sanitary Conveniences—(Section 7).*

	Found	Remedied
(a) No intervening ventilated space - - - - -	1	—
(b) Minor items of disrepair, cracked pans, joints, seats, etc. - - - - -	3	3

*Inspection and Supervision of Food.**Milk and Dairies.*

Number of routine visits to cowsheds - - - - -	8
" " dairies - - - - -	11
Sundry meetings with owners, etc. - - - - -	6
Number of visits for sampling purposes - - - - -	64
" " to laboratory with samples - - - - -	45
" " to consumers <i>re</i> complaints - - - - -	1

Last summer a large Creamery found it necessary to pasteurise their "Tuberculin Tested" milk owing to the fact that large quantities were souring before, or shortly after delivery to consumers. During the course of enquiries the wholesalers who have an approved H.T.S.T. pasteurising plant, stated that with the exception of that from one producer, all the "T.T." milk is at most times unsatisfactory. Samples taken of one "T.T." producer's milk were most unsatisfactory in 7 instances from 9 samplings during the winter period 30th January to 20th February. Labour shortage was reported to be the main cause of the trouble; although it was also stated by the responsible authority that milk was strained in the cowshed.

The only complaints received regarding milk "pasteurised" in the district came from an area where the majority of samples were taken after the milk had been bottled by the retailers. These complaints concerned two samples of "T.T." (Pasteurised) milk bottles by the pasteurisers; and 7 samples of "Pasteurised" milk bottled by the retailers from whom the samples were taken. Some slight fault in bottling may have been responsible for the slightly sub-standard "T.T." (Pasteurised) samples. A second authority took 10 samples of "Pasteurised" milk ex-churns on delivery at the retailer's premises and all proved satisfactory. Nine samples of raw "T.T." milk taken by two authorities were unsatisfactory, and no doubt this was due to faulty production on the farms. The consequent benefits to the pasteuriser and consumer are obvious, for it is well known that the keeping quality of pasteurised milk is dependent

upon the degree of change which has taken place in the milk since production; and such change will be dependent mainly upon the age and temperature of the milk.

Fifty-three samples of milk pasteurised in Ware were submitted for test and all proved satisfactory. Out of 166 samples examined there were nine "T.T.," two "Accredited," and two "ungraded" failures.

Meat Inspection at Central Slaughterhouse.

Number of visits to Slaughterhouse	- - -	352
" " Sundays involving duty	- - -	10
" " visits to laboratory with specimens	-	7
" " " re complaints as to nuisance	-	1

The number of carcases inspected showed an increase of 28%; the increase being mainly in respect of calves and sheep; that of cattle and pigs being very slight.

Particulars of the incident of disease found in animals examined is given herewith. About 33.8 tons of meat and offals (including tripes, intestines and trimmings) were condemned during the year.

Other Foods.

Number of visits to Food Premises	- - -	50
" " " consumers re complaints	- -	3

The following items were examined and condemned or salvaged.

Items Condemned.

Tinned or packed goods	- - - - -	214
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Other Goods.

25 lbs. Raisins	- - -	Fermentation, Maggots
56 " Currants	- - -	Damaged in transit
42 " Raisins	- - -	Titanous Sulphate
42 " Lemons	- - -	Mouldy
160 " Smoked Fillets	- -	Decomposition
7½ cwt. Herrings	- -	" "
1½ " Blue Peas	- -	Mouldy
30 lbs. Soya Flour	- -	Stale and Bitter
6½ " Cheese	- -	Mouldy
6 ozs. " ,	- -	Rancid

Salvaged.

Returned to suppliers in accordance with Ministry of Food instructions. Consignment of Bacon, Butter and Margarine, damaged during rail transit by Titanous Sulphate.

Bacon	- - - - -	10 lbs. Decomposition
Butter and Margarine	- -	1 carton Rancid
" " " "	- -	23 lbs. Rancid

Condensed Milk	- - -	39 Faulty Tins
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One complaint was received regarding dirty cups and utensils issued at a tearooms. A letter was sent to the proprietor, drawing attention to the complaint, and the need for personal cleanliness to avoid spreading alimentary and other infections.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding cows,	Cows.	Calves	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
<i>Number Slaughtered</i>	2,980	1,119	2,528	7,349	601
<i>All Diseases Except Tuberculosis.</i>					
Whole Carcasses condemned ...	5	23	18	5	18
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	960	449	16	71	58
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	32.38	42.18	1.30	0.96	12.47
<i>Tuberculosis Only.</i>					
Whole Carcasses condemned ...	11	29	2	—	5
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	335	355	2	—	17
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis...	11.54	34.2	0.15	—	3.66

Scabies.

A Total of 89 Cases was Treated for Scabies at Scabies Centre during the Year.

	Resident in U.D. Other Districts	
To cases - - - - -	48	13
,, contacts - - - - -	41	11
Number of visits - - - - -	17	—

Urban District.

						Total
Cases - 12 Boys	10 Girls	9 Men	17 Women			48
Contacts 13 ,,	11 ,,	6 ,,	11 ,,			41
					—	89

Other Districts.

Cases - 5 Boys	2 Girls	1 Man	5 Women	13
Contacts 9 ,,	2 ,,			11

Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

Notifiable Diseases.

		TOTAL	Under 1 year	1-5 years	5-14 years	14-21 years	21-65 years	over 65 years	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Small-pox	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Diphtheria	....	1	....	1	....	....	....	....	....	....
Scarlet Fever	....	16	....	....	14	1	1	....	16	....
Erysipelas	....	1	....	....	....	....	1	....	1	....
Enteric Fever	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Acute Polio-myelitis	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Puerperal Pyrexia	....	2	....	....	....	1	1	....	....	....
Dysentery (Sonne)	....	3	....	1	....	....	2	....	1	....
Acute primary Pneumonia	....	2	1	....	....	....	....	1	....	1
Measles	....	84	1	18	64	1	....	....	5	....
Whooping Cough	....	5	....	4	1	....	....	....	1	....
Jaundice (Hepatitis)	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Scarlet Fever	-	1						2	5	2		2
Measles	-	2	2	10	61	9						
Whooping Cough	-											5
Dysentery (Sonne)	-	2	1									
Jaundice	-	-										
Diphtheria	-	-										

Diphtheria Prophylaxis.

Number of Children who had completed the full course of Immunisation during the year.

AGE	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5-9	9-14	Total under 15
		68	36	4	2	19	1	130

Sawbridgeworth Urban District.

Water.

The town is supplied by the Herts and Essex Waterworks Company from their deep wells in Redrick Lane. 93% of the houses have a constant supply from the waterworks. The remaining 7% in the Village of Spellbrook obtain their water from shallow wells. Spellbrook Public well continues to be chlorinated each day and no samples of water, analysed monthly, were found to be unsatisfactory

Sewerage.

At the Central Disposal Works the sewage is disposed of by the sedimentation and bacteria bed process, the effluent eventually entering the River Stort.

The South Sewerage Disposal Works is a temporary plant consisting of septic tanks with land irrigation and will be converted to a more modern system when facilities are available.

Public Cleansing.

Refuse is collected alternate weeks and affixed near the Central Sewerage Works.

Diphtheria Prophylaxis.

Number of Children who had completed the full course
of Immunisation during the year.

AGE	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	Total under 15
	6	39	4	2	1	10	0	62

Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

Notifiable Diseases.

Ware Rural District.

Water Supplies.

The main water supply is obtained from two boreholes, 450 feet deep at the Pumping Station at the main Cambridge Road A.10, at Puckeridge. The water is pumped to a tower of 250,000 gallons capacity situated at Old Hall Green by vertical spindle borehole pumps. Water is also supplied in bulk to the Braughing Rural District, being pumped to a tower of 75,000 gallons capacity situated at Albury and amounts to approximately 32 million gallons per annum. The Metropolitan Water Board area of supply include the Parishes of Great Amwell and Stanstead St. Margarets. Apart from these, mains pass through each Parish with the exception of Eastwick and Gilston, and a scheme has been prepared for the extension of mains to cover this area. The quality of water is of a high standard but it is chlorinated as an extra precaution. Samples have been taken from time to time from the piped supply and bacteriological examinations made have shown the water to be highly satisfactory in every case. The sufficiency is not in doubt. Of 2,700 properties in the district there are approximately 1,900 on main water supply.

Of the private supplies throughout the district approximately two-thirds are deep wells or boreholes and one-third are shallow wells.

The Parish of Gilston is at present supplied by private wells and Eastwick by a private piped water supply.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Standon and Puckeridge are sewered and gravitate to a pumping station in Paper Mill Lane, Standon from which the sewage is raised to a disposal works south of the village.

High Cross and Wadesmill, Great Amwell, St. Margarets and Stanstead Abbotts are drained to pumping stations from which the sewage is raised to join the Ware Urban District at their pumping station in Marsh Lane whence it is delivered to the Ware U.D. sewage farm at Rye Meads in Stanstead Abbotts parish.

Part of the village of Hertford Heath is in the Great Amwell parish and is sewered by agreement to disposal works in the Hertford Rural District.

A scheme has been prepared and approved for the sewerage of Wareside, Widford and Hunsdon and it is anticipated that works will be undertaken in the near future. The works have been designed to take the sewerage from Little Hadham and Much Hadham in the Braughing Rural District.

In connection with an housing estate, the parish of Eastwick will be sewer'd to a small disposal unit. Consideration is also to be given to the sewer'ing of Gilston and Little Munden.

Public Cleansing.

Cesspools for private residents are emptied three times per year free of charge and on other occasions by request at a nominal charge. There are over 600 cesspools in the area, and to cope with this new arrangement the Council are purchasing another Dennis 700 gallon emptier with night soil attachment. Pails are emptied twice weekly from cottages not connected with the sewer. House refuse is collected weekly in a covered conveyance and disposed of by tipping at Standon and St. Margarets.

	Scarlet Fever	Diph- theria	Dys- entery	Measles	Whoop- ing Ch.	Jaundice	Acute P.M.
Eastwick	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gilston	...	...	...	2	1	...	...
Great Amwell	...	...	...	23	...	1	...
Great Munden	1	...	...	9	...	1	2
Little Munden	...	...	...	10	...	...	...
Hunsdon	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Standon	3	...	1	65	3	2	2
Stanstead Abbotts	1	...	...	25	1	4	2
St. Margarets	...	...	2	7	...	...	...
Thundridge	2	...	2	30	...	...	...
Ware Rural	3	...	...	5	1	...	...
Widford	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Easneye	...	...	4	...	...	...	...
St. Edmund's Coll.	2	...	...	...	...	3	...
Fanhams Hall	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
Round House	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Non-Civilian	...	...	...	1	...	2	2

Scabies Order, 1941.

Cases were treated by neighbouring Authorities as follows:—

	Adults.	Children.
Hoddesdon	-	11
Braughing	-	6
Ware Urban	-	4
Total	-	15
		8

Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

Notifiable Diseases.

		Total	Under 1 year	1-5 years	5-14 years	14-21 years	21-65 years	over 65 years	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Small-pox	.....	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Diphtheria	.....	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Scarlet Fever	.....	16	.....	3	10	3	.....	.....	15	.....
Erysipelas	.....	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Enteric Fever	.....	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	.....	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Acute Polio-myelitis	.....	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	.....	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Puerperal Pyrexia	.....	3	....	....	....	....	....	3	....	1
Dysentery (Sonne)	.....	9	1	3	2	3	....	....	9	....
Acute primary Pneumonia	.....	8	....	1	....	....	4	18	2	....
Measles	.....	179	7	57	91	4	5	....	5	....
Whooping Cough	.....	6	....	3	3	....	....	....	1	....
Jaundice (Hepatitis)	.....	15	....	1	5	....	9	....	....	....

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Scarlet Fever	-			3					1	2	4	6
Measles	-	2	2	3	9	48	87	27	1			
Whooping Cough	-			3		1						
Dysentery (Sonne)	-	2					2	1	4			
Jaundice	-	2	1	1	3	2				1	2	3
Diphtheria	-	-										

Diphtheria Prophylaxis.

Number of Children who had completed the full course of Immunisation during the year..

AGE	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	Total under 15
	4	117	12	4	7	28	10	182

Braughing Rural District.

Water Supplies.

The Northern part of the District is now supplied from two deep bore-holes at Chipping, from which water is pumped to a water tower at Throcking and to a reservoir at Buntingford; while the Southern part of the District is supplied from Much Hadham, augmented by a supply from the Ware Rural District which is pumped to a water tower at Albury to serve the parishes of Braughing, Albury and the higher parts of Little and Much Hadham. All the water is chlorinated.

The old Buntingford Waterworks are available as a standby.

It is estimated that the mains now supply 75% of the District.

Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

Notifiable Diseases.

		Total	Under 1 year	1-5 years	5-14 years	14-21 years	21-65 years	over 65 years	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Small-pox	....	0	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Diphtheria	....	0	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Scarlet Fever	....	2	....	....	2	....	....	....	1	....
Erysipelas	....	0	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Enteric Fever	....	0	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	....	0	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Acute Polio-myelitis	....	0	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	....	0	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Puerperal Pyrexia	....	2	....	....	....	1	1	....	1	....
Dysentery (Sonne)	....	2	....	....	....	....	1	1	....	....
Acute primary Pneumonia	9	1	2	1	....	....	2	3	1	....
Measles	....	76	2	23	48	3	....	....	....	....
Whooping Cough	....	9	1	6	2	....	....	....	....	....
Jaundice (Hepatitis)	....	14	....	....	4	2	7	1	....	....

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Jaundice	-	1	1	1	2	4	....	....	2	....	....	3
Scarlet Fever	-	1	1	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Puerperal Pyrexia	-
Pneumonia	-	-
Dysentery (Sonne)	-	2	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Measles	-	5	8	36	14	3	3	....	6	....	....	1
Whooping Cough	-	1	....	....	4	....	3	....	1

		Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Dysentery	Measles	Whooping Ch.	Jaundice	Acute P.M.
Aspenden	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Albury	...	...	...	...	32	2	1	...
Anstey	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Buckland	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...
Buntingford	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...
Cottered	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Furneaux Pelham	...	...	...	...	8	...	1	...
Brent Pelham	...	1	...	...	...	...	5	...
High Wych	...	...	...	...	4	1	...	...
Little Hadham	...	1	...	1	4	...	2	...
Much Hadham	...	...	...	...	8	2	2	...
Thorley	...	...	...	...	9	1	...	...
Westmill	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Wyddial	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Meesden	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...

Diphtheria Prophylaxis.

Number of Children who had completed the full course
of Immunisation during the year.

AGE	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5 - 9	10 - 14	Total under 15
	0	61	17	24	35	29	34	200

Scabies.

During the year, 17 women, 7 men and 54 children received Benzyl Benzoate treatment at the Scabies Treatment Centre, Bridgefoot House, Buntingford.

Insulin.

During the year two people were supplied with Insulin.

Hertford Rural District.

Water.

Again the laying of a main at Brickendon has been made possible by joint financial responsibility by the landowners, the War Agricultural Executive Committee, the County Council and the Rural District Council. This time, the laying of 1,620 yards of 3in. main has given a supply to Ettridge Farm and to three cottages near the farm to which had, previously, been carted. Another cottage en route has also been supplied.

Piped supplies have been taken into thirty houses which formerly relied on wells or public standpipes. These included five farmhouses and four cottages so remote from the mains that very long services, which were only practicable with War Agricultural Executive Committee financial aid, had to be laid.

Samples were again taken quarterly for bacteriological examination of chlorinated water going to supply from the Council's two pumping stations and the reports were satisfactory. No shortage of water was experienced.

Sanitary Circumstances.

Fifteen W.C.'s were substituted for pail closets or privy pits.

Disinfestation (bugs) was carried out at four houses. Spraying followed by fumigation, was practised and, in the case of one pair of houses, several treatments were necessary.

Housing.

War damage repairs caused much work during the year and prevented a start on the survey of rural housing.

Although assistance under the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts was promised in respect of seven houses, the work has not yet been executed.

Unsound Food.

On fifteen occasions, small quantities of food which were found to be unfit, were surrendered by the traders concerned and dealt with accordingly.

Milk & Dairies Orders.

Four cowsheds and dairies were reconditioned during the year.

All the samples of milk pasteurised at the two plants in the District and the Tuberculin Tested milk bottled at the three licensed premises conformed to the prescribed standard.

Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

Notifiable Diseases.

	Total	Under 1 year	1-5 years	5-14 years	14-21 years	21-65 years	over 65 years	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Small-pox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	7	0	2	3	1	1	0	3	0
Erysipelas	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Enteric Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Acute Polio-myelitis	3	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dysentery (Sonne)	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Acute primary Pneumonia	14	1	0	1	1	9	2	2	2
Measles	153	3	45	96	4	5	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	24	0	11	13	0	0	0	1	0
Jaundice (Hepatitis)	4	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	0

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Scarlet Fever	-	3	0	1	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
Measles	-	2	3	1	26	39	19	53	10	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	-	0	4	0	0	2	10	4	0	3	0	1
Dysentery (Sonne)-	-	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jaundice	-	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Diphtheria Prophylaxis.

Number of Children who had completed the full course of Immunisation during the year.

AGE	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	Total under 15
	10	114	24	15	6	21	7	197

		Scarlet Fever	Diph- theria	Dys- entery	Measles	Whoop- ing Ch.	Acute P.M.	Jaundice
Aston	....	....	....	....	1	....	....	....
Bayford	....	....	....	....	1	....	....	....
Bennington	....	1	....	....	2	....	....	....
Bengeo Rural	....	....	....	....	4	....	....	....
Bramfield	....	....	....	....	14	....	....	....
Brickendon Liberty	....	....	....	....	2	....	....	....
Datchworth	....	....	....	....	15	6	1	....
Hertingfordbury	....	1	....	....	1	3	....	1
Little Amwell	....	....	....	....	3	....	....	1
L. Berkhamstead	....	1	....	....	14	4	1	....
Sacombe	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Stapleford	....	....	....	....	27	....	....	....
Tewin	....	1	....	....	1	1	1	....
Walkern	....	....	....	1	13	....	....	....
Watton-at-Stone	....	....	....	....	53	....	....	2
Woodcock Residential Nursery, L. Berk'std	3	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Heathmount School, } Woodhall Park.	....	....	....	....	2	....	....	....

Scabies Order, 1941.

Cases were treated by neighbouring authorities as follows:—

			Adults	Children
Hertford Borough	Men 1, Women, 6	...	7	15
Welwyn Garden City	Men and Women	...	13	
Hoddesdon U.D.C.	...	...	3	

Insulin.

One woman (resident in Hertingfordbury Parish) received free Insulin.





